



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS  
FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM B-5,  
CAFETERIA CONFERENCE ROOM  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012**

**Wednesday, December 3, 2014**

**10:30 AM**

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (14-5552)

**Attachments:** [AUDIO](#)

Present: Michelle Vega, Nick Ippolito, Grace Crossette-Thambiah, Maria Romero and Genie Chough

Absent: Carl Gallucci, Lori Glasgow, Dorinne Jordan, Kieu-Anh King and James Blunt

**I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

1. Call to Order. (14-5321)

**The meeting was called to order by Michelle Vega at 10:37 a.m.**

2. Approval of the October 1, 2014 meeting minutes. (14-5324)

**On motion of Maria Romero, seconded by Nick Ippolito, this item was approved.**

**Attachments:** [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

3. Department Success Stories. (14-5325)

**Lisa Campbell-Motton, Probation Department, reported that they now have six Foster Family Agencies (FFA's) ready for probation youth. There are four probation youth waiting for placement; a pre-placement interview between a probation youth and an FFA has taken place, an update will be provided at the next meeting.**

**Karen Richardson, DCFS, reported that the "Adoption Saturday" event recently conducted was a success and as a result, one adoption has been finalized. Ms. Richardson added that DCFS' goal of new hires has been exceeded.**

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**On motion of Michelle Vega, seconded by Nick Ippolito, this item was received and filed.**

## **II. OLD BUSINESS**

4. Futuro Infantil Hispano Foster Family Agency Contract Compliance Monitoring Review (8/15/14)(Continued from the meeting of 10/1/14). (14-3835)

**Karen Richardson, DCFS, reported that the agency is currently working on a Corrective Action Plan (CAP), they are on track for completing 30 of the home studies, 16 are scheduled to be completed by March 2015 and 14 to be completed by July 2015; a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to complete the home studies with another agency was obtained.**

**On motion of Maria Romero, seconded by Nick Ippolito, this item was received and filed.**

**Attachments:**    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

5. Los Angeles Child Guidance Clinic - A Department of Mental Health and Department of Children and Family Services Provider - Contract Compliance Review (9/16/14)(Continued from the meeting of 10/1/14). (14-4259)

**Grace Crossette-Thambiah expressed concern regarding the agency's programmatic issues. Jennifer Hottenroth, DCFS, reported that the program is doing well and is on track to increase wrap around enrollments; plan of care reviews are done within 30 days of the enrollment period.**

**Don Chadwick, Auditor-Controller (A-C), reported that a revised cost report was obtained from the Department of Mental Health (DMH) which reflects that the agency now owes \$13,500. Mr. Chadwick will follow up with DCFS regarding the question costs and will provide an update to Committee members via email.**

**Maria Romero questioned if the training for case managers and psychiatrists was completed. Mr. Chadwick will follow up and provide an update via email.**

**On motion of Maria Romero, seconded by Nick Ippolito, this item was received and filed.**

**Attachments:**    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - AC REPORT](#)

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**III. REPORTS**

6. Pennacle Foundation, Inc. Group Home Contract Compliance Monitoring Review (9/26/14). (14-5297)

**Grace Crossette-Thambiah asked if a transition plan for children placed with agencies will be utilized. Karen Richardson, DCFS, explained that the children have already transitioned.**

**Michelle Vega asked if the agency was previously put on a hold status. Ms. Richardson indicated that after several attempts of working with the agency to correct issues, the agency voluntarily submitted a letter rescinding their contract.**

**On motion of Michelle Vega, seconded by Nick Ippolito, this item was received and filed.**

**Attachments:**    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

7. Optimist Youth & Family Services Contract Compliance Monitoring Review (9/29/14). (14-5296)

**On motion of Michelle Vega, seconded by Nick Ippolito, this item was received and filed.**

**Attachments:**    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - PROBATION REPORT](#)

8. Phoenix House Contract Compliance Monitoring Review (9/29/14). (14-5298)

**Michelle Vega questioned the location of the agency and expressed concern regarding the use of psychotropic medication among the seven probation youth. Lisa Campbell-Motton, Probation Department, indicated the agency is located in the city of Lake View Terrace and that due to the type of care the agency provides the use of psychotropic medication is not unusual. Ms. Vega expressed concern regarding eight recommendations not corrected. Ms. Campbell-Motton indicated that the Probation Department is working with the agency and the next annual review will be conducted soon. Ms. Campbell-Motton added that the agency recently experienced a suicide of a non-county youth and an investigation was conducted.**

**On motion of Maria Romero, seconded by Nick Ippolito, this item was received and filed.**

**Attachments:**    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - PROBATION REPORT](#)

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9. Fields Comprehensive Youth Services, Inc. Group Home Contract Number: 07-023-026 Compliance Monitoring Review (10/10/14). (14-5293)

**On motion of Michelle Vega, seconded by Nick Ippolito, this item was received and filed.**

**Attachments:**    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

10. Inner Circle Foster Care and Adoption Services Foster Family Agency Contract Number 07-021-035 Compliance Monitoring Review (10/31/14). (14-5294)

**On motion of Michelle Vega, seconded by Nick Ippolito, this item was received and filed.**

**Attachments:**    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

11. Star View Adolescent Center Community Treatment Facility Contract Compliance Monitoring Review (11/7/14) (Continued from meeting of 12/3/14). (14-5315)

**Nick Ippolito expressed concern regarding the high number of security incident reports from the agency and their ability to receive youth from other counties. Grace Crossette-Thambiah added that a resident contacted her regarding a brawl and due to the incident the resident ran away. Karen Richardson, DCFS, indicated the high volume of referrals was due to one incident involving an uncooperative resident. Ms. Richardson confirmed that the agency is a level 14 facility and they are able to receive children from other counties and states. Ms. Richardson added that monitoring and technical assistance has been provided to the agency.**

**In response to questions posed by Michelle Vega regarding amounts for placements, expenditures and the short period of time that they were on hold status. Diana Flaggs, DCFS, indicated that a fiscal review provides details on expenditures. Ms. Richardson indicated that the agency took immediate action by retraining staff.**

**Nick Ippolito expressed concern with depending on an agency with a high volume of issues.**

**Lisa Campbell-Motton, Probation, reported that internet and electronic issues are increasing, and safeguards and monitoring efforts are being implemented.**

**In response to questions posed by Michelle Vega. Ms. Flaggs indicated that the upcoming exit review will provide further details.**

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DCFS staff was asked to provide an update, and include information regarding the security incident reports, the reason for numerous referrals of high level youth, rate of out- of-county placements and issues corrected at the next meeting.

On motion of Nick Ippolito, seconded by Maria Romero, there being no objection, this item was continued to the next meeting.

Attachments:    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

12.    Garces Residential Care Services Group Home Contract Compliance Review - Contract Number 07-023-031 (11/12/14). (14-5316)

On motion of Michelle Vega, seconded by Nick Ippolito, this item was received and filed.

Attachments:    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

13.    Bienvenidos Foster Family Agency Contract Compliance Monitoring Review (11/12/14). (14-5364)

Maria Romero expressed concern regarding the agency's attitude towards the seven Community Care Licensing (CCL) citations. Karen Richardson, DCFS, explained that technical assistance was provided and a quality assurance review is scheduled to take place at a later date in December 2014.

Maria Romero questioned if a computerized data tracking system was implemented. Ms. Richardson will confirm if the data system was implemented and provide an update at the next meeting.

Michelle Vega expressed concern regarding the repeated reports of poor quality of care. Ms. Richardson indicated that in an effort to improve the quality of care the agency is working with individual certified foster parents and DCFS has provided training on the recruitment of foster parents.

Maria Romero questioned the amount of youth placed with the agency. Ms. Richardson reported that 208 youth are placed with this agency.

On motion of Nick Ippolito, seconded by Maria Romero, there being no objection, this item was continued to the next meeting.

Attachments:    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

14. Moore's Cottage Group Home Contract Compliance Monitoring Review (11/12/14). (14-5367)

**On motion of Michelle Vega, seconded by Nick Ippolito, this item was received and filed.**

**Attachments:**    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

15. The Village Family Services Foster Family Agency Contract Compliance Monitoring Review (11/12/14). (14-5368)

**On motion of Michelle Vega, seconded by Nick Ippolito, this item was received and filed.**

**Attachments:**    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

16. Concept 7 Foster Family Agency Contract Compliance Monitoring Review (11/13/14) (Continued from meeting of 12/3/14). (14-5366)

**Maria Romero expressed concern regarding poor facility management. Karen Richardson, DCFS, indicated that training on Needs and Services Plan reports, food quality and maintenance of vehicles were conducted on November 12, 2014; an update will be provided at the next meeting.**

**On Motion of Nick Ippolito, seconded by Maria Romero, there being no objection, this item was continued to the next meeting.**

**Attachments:**    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

17. Casa Editha Foundation, Inc., d.b.a Ava Lyn's Group Home Contract Compliance Monitoring Review (11/17/14). (14-5365)

**On motion of Michelle Vega, seconded by Nick Ippolito, this item was received and filed.**

**Attachments:**    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

18. Wings of Refuge Foster Family Agency Contract Compliance Monitoring Review (11/19/14) (Continued from meeting of 12/3/14). (14-5438)

**Grace Crossette-Thambiah expressed concern regarding the agency's repayment plan. Fernando Rubio, Treasurer and Tax Collector's Office (TTC), reported that the agency is no longer making payments and still owes the \$13, 000.**

**Grace Crossette-Thambiah requested TTC staff to provide an update regarding questioned costs at the next meeting.**

**On motion of Nick Ippolito, seconded by Maria Romero, there being no objection, this item was continued to the next meeting.**

**Attachments:**    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

- 19.**    Project Six Group Home Contract Compliance Monitoring Review (11/21/14)  
(Continued from meeting of 12/3/14). (14-5437)

**Genie Chough commended the Committee for the progress it has made towards improving reports.**

**Genie Chough expressed concern regarding recommendations not yet implemented. Diana Flaggs, DCFS, indicated that no preliminary issues were found; however, a review is currently in progress.**

**Michelle Vega asked DCFS staff to provide an update regarding recommendations not being implemented at the next meeting.**

**On Motion of Nick Ippolito, seconded by Maria Romero, there being no objection, this item was continued to the next meeting.**

**Attachments:**    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

- 20.**    West Covina Group Corporation - Group Home Contract Number 07-023-088  
Compliance Monitoring Review (11/25/14). (14-4919)

**On motion of Michelle Vega, seconded by Nick Ippolito, this item was received and filed.**

**Attachments:**    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - DCFS REPORT](#)

**IV. DISCUSSIONS**

21. Probation Group Home Monitoring Report. (14-5327)

**Lisa Campbell Motton, Probation, reported that 2013-14 reports are posted on their website and updates will be provided at the next meeting.**

22. Contract Monitoring Database of Reviews (CMDR) Status Update. (14-5328)

**Aggie Alonso, A-C, reported that Phase I is implemented and includes all DCFS programs. Phase II is underway and includes internal monitoring programs from Department of Public Social Services, Child Support Services, Open-Cal, and Department of Health Services. Mr. Alonso added that a query manual will be distributed soon.**

**Maria Romero questioned the possibility of linking reports to the system. Mr. Alonso confirmed that a link to the reports is available.**

**V. MISCELLANEOUS**

23. Matters not on the posted agenda (to be Presented and Placed on the Agenda of a Future Meeting). (14-5329)

**There were no matters posted.**

24. Public Comment. (14-5330)

**No members of the public addressed the Committee.**

25. Adjournment. (14-5331)

**There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 11:14 a.m.**